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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/965,592	09/26/2001	Gaurang K. Shah	062891.0550	3496

7590 11/30/2004

Baker Botts L.L.P.
Suite 600
2001 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75201-2980

EXAMINER

OSMAN, RAMY M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2157

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/965,592	Applicant(s) SHAH ET AL. SF	
	Examiner Ramy M Osman	Art Unit 2157	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 September 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 September 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to application filed on Sep. 26, 2001. Claims 1-20 are pending examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. **Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Zisapel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,249,801).**

4. In reference to claim 1, Zisapel teaches a method for re-directing a client session, comprising:

receiving a request from a client terminal (see col. 1 lines 29-41 and col. 2 lines 20-27);
selecting one of a plurality of gateways to process the request (see col. 2 lines 28-39);
sending a re-direct message to the client terminal, the re-direct message including
information identifying the selected gateway (see col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

5. In reference to claim 2, Zisapel teaches the method of Claim 1, wherein the information identifying the selected gateway may include a private port number associated with the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15).

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6. In reference to claim 3, Zisapel teaches the method of Claim 2, further comprising:

receiving a subsequent request associated with the

re-direct message, the subsequent request including the private port number associated with the selected gateway;

translating the port number associated with the selected gateway to an actual port number of the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

7. In reference to claim 4, Zisapel teaches the method of Claim 3, further comprising:

forwarding the subsequent request to the selected gateway, the subsequent request including the actual port number of the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

8. In reference to claim 5, Zisapel teaches the method of Claim 4, further comprising:

receiving a response to the subsequent request from the selected gateway, the response including the actual port number of the selected gateway;

translating the actual port number of the selected gateway to the private port number associated with the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

9. In reference to claim 6, Zisapel teaches the method of Claim 5, further comprising:

forwarding the response to the client terminal, the response including the private port number associated with the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

10. In reference to claim 7, Zisapel teaches the method of Claim 1, further comprising:

maintaining an association between the client terminal and the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

11. In reference to claim 8, Zisapel teaches the method of Claim 1, wherein the information identifying the selected gateway includes an Internet Protocol address of the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

12. In reference to claim 9, Zisapel teaches the method of Claim 8, further comprising:
receiving a subsequent request associated with the re-direct message, the subsequent request including the Internet Protocol address of the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

13. In reference to claim 10, Zisapel teaches the method of Claim 9, further comprising:
forwarding the subsequent request to the selected gateway, the subsequent request including the Internet Protocol address of the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

14. In reference to claim 11, Zisapel teaches the method of Claim 10, further comprising:
receiving a response to the subsequent request from the selected gateway, the response including the Internet Protocol address of the selected gateway;

forwarding the response to the client terminal (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

15. In reference to claim 12, Zisapel teaches the method of Claim 1, further comprising:
maintaining an association between the client terminal and the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

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16. In reference to claim 13, Zisapel teaches an apparatus for re-directing a client session, comprising:

means for receiving a request from a client terminal (see col. 3 lines 20-45);

means for selecting one of a plurality of gateways to process the request (see col. 3 lines 20-45);

means for sending a re-direct message to the client terminal, the re-direct message including information identifying the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

17. In reference to claim 14, Zisapel teaches the apparatus of Claim 13, wherein the information identifying the selected gateway may be a private port number associated with the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

18. In reference to claim 15, Zisapel teaches the method of Claim 13, wherein the information associated with the selected gateway is an Internet Protocol address of the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

19. In reference to claim 16, Zisapel teaches the apparatus of Claim 13, further comprising:

means for maintaining an association between the client terminal and the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

20. In reference to claim 17, Zisapel teaches an apparatus for re-directing a client session, comprising:

a load balancer operable to receive an initial request from a client terminal, the load balancer operable to select one of a plurality of gateways to process the request, the load balancer operable to send a re-direct message to the client terminal in response to the request,

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re-direct message including information identifying the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

21. In reference to claim 18, Zisapel teaches the apparatus of Claim 17, wherein the load balancer receives a subsequent request from the client terminal, the subsequent request including the information identifying the selected gateway, the load balancer operable to forward the request to the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

22. In reference to claim 19, Zisapel teaches the apparatus of Claim 17, wherein the load balancer maintains an association between the client terminal and the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

23. In reference to claim 20, Zisapel teaches the apparatus of Claim 17, wherein the information identifying the selected gateway includes one of a private port number associated with the selected gateway and an Internet Protocol address of the selected gateway (see col. 6 lines 50-col. 7 lines 15 and col. 3. lines 60-col. 4 lines 3).

24. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

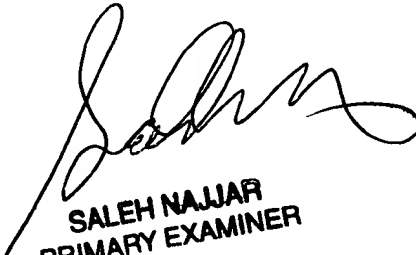
- Handling packet fragments in a distributed network service environment by Albert et al.,
U.S. Patent No. 6,742,045
- Scalable domain name system with persistence and load balancing by Swildens et al.,
U.S. patent No. 6,754,706

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ramy M Osman whose telephone number is (571) 272-4008. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RMO
November 27, 2004



SALEH NAJJAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER